

Charter APPROVED March 27, 2017 with a placeholder for the “vision and principles” section.

Vision and principles APPROVED September 15, 2017.

Section I – Scope and Objectives

Senate Bill 246, signed in 2015, directs OPR to establish the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP). The purpose of ICARP is to “coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change” (Public Resources Code § 71350). The ICARP Technical Advisory Council (TAC), one component of this program, is a body that shall be led by OPR with a focus on “supporting [OPR’s] goals... to facilitate coordination among state, regional, and local agency efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change” (§ 71358(a)) with “an emphasis on climate equity considerations” (§ 71354), environmental justice, and integrated climate “strategies that benefit both greenhouse gas emissions reductions and adaptation”. (§ 71354)

Vision Statement

All Californians thrive in the face of a changing climate. Leading with innovation, California meets the challenge of climate change by taking bold actions to protect our economy, our quality of life, and all people. The state’s most vulnerable communities are prioritized in these actions. Working across all levels of government, the state is prepared for both gradual changes and extreme events. Climate change adaptation and mitigation is standard practice in government and business throughout the state. California meets these goals with urgency, while achieving the following long-term outcomes:

- **All people and communities** respond to changing average conditions, shocks, and stresses in a manner that minimizes risks to public health, safety, and economic disruption and maximizes equity and protection of the most vulnerable.
- **Natural systems** adjust and maintain functioning ecosystems in the face of change.
- **Infrastructure and built systems** withstand changing conditions and shocks, including changes in climate, while continuing to provide essential services.

Principles

1. Prioritize **integrated** climate actions, those that both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate impacts, as well as actions that provide **multiple benefits**.
2. Prioritize actions that promote **equity**, foster community resilience, and protect the most vulnerable.¹ Explicitly include communities that are disproportionately vulnerable to climate impacts.
3. Prioritize **natural and green infrastructure** solutions to enhance and protect natural resources, as well as urban environments. Preserve and restore ecological systems (or engineered systems that use ecological processes) that enhance natural system functions, services, and quality and that reduce risk, including but not limited to actions that improve water and food security, habitat for fish and wildlife, coastal resources, human health, recreation and jobs.
4. **Avoid maladaptation** by making decisions that do not worsen the situation or transfer the challenge from one area, sector, or social group to another. Identify and take all opportunities to prepare for climate change in all planning and investment decisions.
5. Base all planning, policy, and investment decisions on the **best-available science**, including local and traditional knowledge, including consideration of future climate conditions out to 2050 and 2100, and beyond.

¹ The ICARP Technical Advisory Council is working to define “vulnerable” within the context of implementation action and metrics; the definition will be added to the adopted vision and principles once completed.

6. Employ **adaptive and flexible governance** approaches by utilizing **collaborative partnerships** across scales and between sectors to accelerate effective problem solving. Promote mitigation and adaptation actions at the regional and landscape scales.
7. Take **immediate actions** to reduce present and near future (within 20 years) climate change risks for all Californians; do so while also **thinking in the long term** and responding to continual changes in climate, ecology, and economics using adaptive management that incorporates regular monitoring.

Section II – Organization and Structure

A. Membership

1. The Director of OPR will appoint Council Members
2. Members will serve a one-year term.
 - i. OPR Director will review Council membership needs annually
3. Alternates
 - i. Council members may designate an alternate to attend in their place. The designee must have the authority to vote on issues.
4. Membership expertise areas include
 - i. Integrated climate experience - adaptation and mitigation
 - ii. Public Health
 - iii. Environmental Quality
 - iv. Environmental Justice
 - v. Agriculture
 - vi. Transportation & housing
 - vii. Energy
 - viii. Natural resources and water
 - ix. Planning
 - x. Recycling & waste management
 - xi. Emergency services and public safety
 - xii. Adaptation finance and funding
5. Membership structure
 - i. Members will include the following:
 1. Local and regional government entities
 2. Collaborative organizations, including regional and network organizations
 3. Community members – at large
 4. State agencies

B. Council Leadership

1. The OPR Director will designate a Chair and one Vice-Chair for a one-year term.
2. The Chair will be responsible for presiding over and representing the Council in public meetings. The Vice-Chair will be responsible for fulfilling the Chair's duties when the Chair is unavailable.
3. The Council may establish committees and working groups as necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Council.

C. Work Committees

1. For assistance in conducting its business, the Council may establish committees or workgroups. Such groups gather information, conduct research, analyze relevant issues and facts, and draft proposed position papers and/or recommendations for deliberation by the Council. Committees or workgroups may not conduct business independent of the Council, or determine recommendations without approval of the Council as their role is to provide information and recommendations for consideration by the Council.

D. Meetings

1. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) will host the Council's meetings. The Council shall meet or otherwise communicate as a group as often as it deems necessary, but at least three times per calendar year. The Chair may call special meetings as necessary.
2. The Council meeting activity is subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Government Code Section 11120, et seq.).
3. OPR will appoint a clerk to prepare minutes of the meetings (§ 11126.1).

E. Decision making

1. When it is necessary for the Council to make decisions, it will seek consensus, where possible. Otherwise, decisions will be approved by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting, as determined by a poll by the Chair (or Vice Chair). Each member will have one vote, cast by their representative or his or her designated alternate.
2. The Council may sponsor public forums to seek input regarding local, regional, and subject matter expertise on climate change adaptation and resilience planning, programs and policies.

F. Staffing and Organization

1. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) was appropriated funding for two staff positions to support the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, including staffing for the Council.

G. Council Funding

1. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) was appropriated funding to support Council meetings and its activities.
2. Travel expense reimbursements are available to Council members upon request.

Section III - Duties

Under SB 246, the Council will support the following activities:

1. Support OPR's goals to facilitate coordination among state, regional, and local agency efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
2. Promote integrated climate actions that benefit both greenhouse gas reductions and adaptation efforts
3. Support adaptation and resiliency efforts that advance equity and environmental justice

Section IV – Modifications

This agreement may be modified only by a vote of the Council.